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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of
PFEIFENBRING, Karlfried, et al.

Serial No.: 10/539,965

Confirmation No.: 8652

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For: COOLING ELEMENT,
PARTICULARLY FOR
FURNACES, AND METHOD
FOR PRODUCING A
COOLING ELEMENT

Group Art Unit: 1742

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, the applicants and their attorney respectfully request that the following patents and publications be made of record in the official United States Patent and Trademark Office file relating to the above-identified application. The citation of the following patents and publications should not be construed as an admission that they constitute statutory prior art with respect to the present invention. In compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), copies of the following foreign patent publications are enclosed herewith.

U.S. Patent Nos.

5,904,893
6,280,681+

Foreign Patent Publications

European Patent Publication No. EP 0 816 515+
European Patent Publication No. EP 1 136 573*
German Patent Publication No. DE 726599+
German Patent Publication No. DE 1 386 645+
Great Britain Patent Publication No. 1 386 645*
Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 58-147504*
Russian Patent Publication No. RU 2 100 728*

The patent and publications listed above that are identified by a plus, "+", symbol have been discussed in the specification of the present application. Applicants' attorney also notes that the publications listed above that are designated with an asterisk, "*", were cited in an International Search Report issued in connection with applicants' corresponding International Patent Application No. PCT/DE2003/004030. With reference to the attached copy of the International Search Report, it provides an indication as to the relevance of the cited publications perceived by the European Patent Office.

Although a complete copy of German Patent Publication No. DE 726599 is presently not available, applicants' attorney notes that an English-language translation thereof is provided. While English-language translations of the other foreign language references are presently not available, applicants' attorney notes that each of them is either discussed in the specification or cited in the aforesaid International Search Report. In addition, U.S. Patent No. 5,904,893 is a counterpart to European Patent Publication No. EP 0 816 515, and English-language abstracts of European Patent

Publication No. EP 1 136 573, Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 58-147504, and Russian Patent Publication No. RU 2 100 728 are attached to the respective enclosed copies of same. Upon the Examiner's request, applicants' attorney will submit English-language translations of any of the foreign-language patent publications cited above.

In order to facilitate the Examiner's citation of the patents and publications listed above, applicants' attorney has completed United States Patent and Trademark Office Form PTO/SB/08A and Form PTO/SB/08B. The completed forms are attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

No fees are believed to be due as a result of the submittal of this Information Disclosure Statement. If any such fees are due, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 503571.

Respectfully Submitted,

McCARTER & ENGLISH, LLP



By: Sanjiv M. Chokshi
Reg. No. 44,080

McCarter & English, LLP
Four Gateway Center
100 Mulberry Street
Newark, NJ 07102-4056
(973) 622-4444